

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Applicants respectfully request further examination and reconsideration in view of the amendments set forth above and the comments set forth below. Within the Office Action, claims 1-56 are pending. Claims 1-28 and 30-53 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103. Claims 55 and 56 are allowed, and claims 29 and 54 are objected to. Within this Response, claims 1, 29, 30, and 54 are amended. Accordingly, claims 1-56 are pending.

Claims 1-54

Within the Office Action mailed on August 12, 2004, it is stated that claim 29 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The only claim that claim 29 depends on is claim 1, which was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,548,605 to Benett. Within the final Office Action, claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103, in light of Benett combined with U.S. Patent No. 6,206,022 to Tsai. Within the final Office Action, claim 29 is again objected to, for the same reasons.

Accordingly, claim 1 is allowable if amended to recite the language in claims 1 and 29 as the claims stood on August 12, 2004. By the above amendments, claim 1 has been amended to substantially recite the language of claim 1 and claim 29 as the claims stood on August 12, 2004. Accordingly, claim 1 is now allowable.

Claims 2-29 all depend on claim 1. Because claim 1 is allowable, claims 2-29 are all also allowable as depending on an allowable base claim.

Within the Office Action mailed on August 12, 2004, it is stated that claim 54 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 54 depends directly on claim 30. Claim 30 has been amended to substantially recite the language of claims 30 and 54 as the claims stood on August 12, 2004. Accordingly, for the reasons similar to those given above with respect to claim 1, claim 30 is now allowable.

Claims 31-54 all depend on claim 30. Because claim 30 is allowable, claims 31-54 are all also allowable as depending on an allowable base claim.



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Allowable Subject Matter

Within the Office Action Summary of the final Office Action, it is marked that claims 55 and 56 are rejected. However, within paragraph 10 of the final Office Action, under the heading "Allowable Subject Matter," it is stated that claims 55 and 56 are allowed. Applicants presume that claims 55 and 56 stand allowed.

CONCLUSION

No new matter has been added by the above amendments. For the reasons given above, the Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-56 are in condition for allowance, and allowance at an early date would be appreciated. If the Examiner has any questions or comments, he is encouraged to call the undersigned at (408) 530-9700 so that any outstanding issues can be expeditiously resolved.

Respectfully submitted,
HAVERSTOCK & OWENS LLP

Dated: 3-14-05

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR § 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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